

The Edinburgh Bowling League



Constitution, Rules & Regulations

Issue 1

| | |
|--|---|
| 1. Purpose | 9. League Competition |
| 2. Brief History | 10. Knockout Competition |
| 3. Object, Vision and Mission Statements | 11. Edinburgh Cup Competition |
| 4. Constitution | 12. Sending Results |
| 5. Edinburgh Bowling League Competitions | Appendix 1 – Member Clubs |
| 6. Participation Rules | Appendix 2 – Committee |
| 7. Playing Rules | Appendix 3 - Authorisation and Change History |
| 8. Cancellations | |

1 Purpose

This document defines how The Edinburgh Bowling League meets the requirements set down by its members.

2 Brief History

The Edinburgh Bowling League was established in 1996 following the agreement of 26 original clubs becoming members on 16th December 1995 at Tanfield Bowling Club. Chairman of the day was Alan Poole who was voted on as the first president, with competitions commencing in 1998.

The first matches in The Edinburgh Bowling League started on 6th May 1998 with 30 member clubs. The majority of these clubs came from three existing local leagues, namely East, North West and Port of Leith with two clubs joining from South Edinburgh. The remaining members of the South Edinburgh league had joined by 2009. A list of current member clubs of The Edinburgh Bowling League is in Appendix 1.

3 Object, Vision and Mission Statements

The object of The Edinburgh Bowling League is to provide competitive, meaningful league bowling to clubs in Districts 11 and 12 of the Scottish Bowling Association.

The Edinburgh Bowling League's vision is to be a professional organisation, providing a friendly atmosphere, offering opportunities for all member clubs to participate in the sport of outdoor lawn bowls.

"To provide a positive bowling organization, so that the players within clubs can reach their potential and be the best they can and enjoy the experience."

4 Constitution

4.1 Title

The name shall be *"The EDINBURGH BOWLING LEAGUE"*.

4.2 Participants

The **League** shall be open to all Private Bowling Clubs having exclusive use of a green in the Edinburgh & Leith area.

4.3 Application for Membership

Application for admittance to the **League** should be made to the Secretary by September 30th in any year. The application shall be considered at the next Annual General Meeting in December. The application must be approved by two-thirds of the constituent clubs present and voting. Any new club joining the **League** will begin in the lowest division.

4.4 Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the **League** shall be held on the first Sunday in December. The Agenda and accounts to be sent by the Secretary to the constituent clubs 21 days prior to said meeting. The business of the meeting shall be to:

- a) Approve relevant Minutes
- b) Receive the reports of the President, Secretary and Treasurer
- c) Approve the Annual Accounts
- d) Decide the Annual Subscription
- e) Elect the Office Bearers and committee for the forthcoming season.
- f) Discharge any other relevant business of the **League**.

4.5 Representatives of Clubs at Annual General and Special General Meetings

Two representatives from each constituent club may attend any General Meetings although clubs may only record one vote.

4.6 Subscriptions

The Annual General Meeting of the **League** shall decide the amount of the Subscription to be effective for the following year's AGM. Such subscription and any competition fees will be payable **before** the commencement of the Annual General Meeting. Any club failing to pay the subscription prior to the commencement of the Annual General Meeting shall forfeit their right to vote and speak at the Annual General Meeting and shall forfeit all rights of membership so long as its subscription remains unpaid.

4.7 Special General Meetings

Special General Meeting will be called by the Secretary giving the Constituent Clubs 21 days notice in writing. A special general Meeting may be called by:

- a) The Committee of Management
- b) Five constituent clubs submitting a joint request in writing to the Secretary.

No business other than that specified on the notice shall be transacted at any such Special General Meeting.

4.8 Committee of Management

Committee of Management shall have full power to transact the business of the **League** including defining and applying all rules for the various competitions. The Committee of Management shall also have the power to impose penalties for any breaches of the rules.

Any vacancies occurring during the year may be filled by co-option by the Committee but only for the remaining part of the year. The Committee may also appoint Sub-Committees with special powers for such duties and for such time, as it may deem necessary. The committee may also co-opt onto these sub-committees such persons as they may consider have special expertise in the area of the said sub-committee.

4.9 Election of Office Bearers and Committee

- a) The offices of President and Vice-President shall be voted on at each Annual General Meeting and be held for one year.
- b) The outgoing President shall become Past-President
- c) The offices of Secretary and Treasurer shall be elected at an Annual General Meeting and shall remain in office, subject to ratification at forthcoming Annual General Meetings.
- d) Four ordinary members shall be elected for one year but be available for re-election without another written nomination. These four members will have an order of seniority based on continuous years of service on the committee.
- e) Nominations for the Committee should be in writing with a proposing and seconding club and be in the Secretary's hands by 30th September.
- f) No Member club shall have two representatives with voting powers on the committee.
- g) The posts of Secretary and Treasurer shall be **NON VOTING** positions.

4.10 Chairmanship of Quorums at Meetings

- a) The President, whom failing, the Vice President shall be chairman at all meetings and committee meetings of the League. The chairman shall have a deliberative as well as a casting vote.
- b) In the absence of both, a chairman shall be elected by the members present.
- c) Representatives of 40% of constituent clubs shall form a quorum at all General Meetings and four voting members at all meetings of the committee of management.

4.11 Secretary

- a) The Secretary shall conduct and keep a record of all the correspondence of the **League**.
- b) The Secretary shall also keep a record of the business transacted at all general and committee meetings and he shall submit a report to the Annual General Meeting.

4.12 Treasurer

- a) The Treasurer shall record in proper form all financial transactions of the **League** and shall present to the Annual General Meeting an audited financial statement for the year ended 30th September each year at which date the **League's** financial year shall end.
- b) All **League** monies in excess of £50.00 shall be paid into a bank account in the name of the **League**.
- c) Authorised signatories of the account to be; Treasurer, President, Vice President and Secretary.

4.13 Withdrawal / Expulsion from League

- a) Any club may withdraw from the **League** on giving written notice to the Secretary before the Annual General Meeting in any year and such club shall thereby forfeit all right and interest in the trophies and funds of the **League**.
- b) A club may suffer expulsion from the **League** but such expulsion must have the support of two-thirds of the constituent clubs, present and voting, at a Special General Meeting.

4.14 Club Amalgamation within and without League

- a) In the event of two Member clubs amalgamating to form a new club they shall take the place of the higher positioned club.
- b) In the event of a Member club amalgamating with another club from out-with the **League** to form a new club that newly formed club will start in the lowest division.

4.15 Honorary Members

The Committee of Management may wish to recognise any outstanding achievement, service or contribution by an individual from the member clubs by conferring the position of Honorary Member on any nominee meeting the aforementioned criteria. The Honorary Member would have no voting rights within the League.

Any recommendation may only be proposed at the Annual General Meeting and must receive the support of two-thirds of the Constituent Clubs present and voting

4.16 Alteration to Constitution

No alteration shall be made to the Constitution unless at the Annual General Meeting (or a Special General Meeting called under Rule 7) Alterations at the Annual General Meeting may be proposed by any Constituent Club or by the Committee of Management. Notice of such alteration must be given to the Secretary by 30th September for inclusion at the Annual General Meeting and such notice shall be sent to each Constituent Club with the circular calling the Meeting. Any alteration must receive the support of two-thirds of the Constituent Clubs present and voting.

5 The Edinburgh Bowling League Competitions

The Edinburgh Bowling League organises four competitions.

5.1 League Competition

Clubs will be required to field a 1st Team (16 players divided into four rinks) unless otherwise authorised by the Committee.

Clubs also have the option of fielding:

- a) A 2nd Team of 16 players divided into four rinks
- b) A 3rd Team(s) of 8 players divided into two rinks.

Clubs which can not field a 2nd Team, may field a 1st Team and ONE (1) 3rd Team.

5.2 Knockout Competition

Clubs may select players to represent them in: Junior Singles, Singles, Pairs, Triples, Fours and Senior Fours Knockout Competitions. The finals will be played on The Edinburgh Bowling League President's green.

5.3 Edinburgh Cup Competition

Clubs will select a team of 24 players divided into six rinks, three rinks to play at home and three rinks to play away. The final will be played on The Edinburgh Bowling League President's green.

5.4 Charity Triples Competition

Clubs will provide a triple (Gents, Ladies, or mixed) for the charity triples held annually at a date and time decided by the Committee. Clubs are encouraged to organise a day at their own club to raise money for the charity but the Committee realises that clubs may have their own charity competitions. The Committee expects each club to support the event with a minimum donation such sum as will be decided by the Committee (Currently £30.00).

6 Participation Rules

Each club shall be responsible for its members' behaviour at all The Edinburgh Bowling League competitions.

All players participating in any of The Edinburgh Bowling League competitions must:

- a) Be of male gender, except for the Charity Triples Competition.
- b) Be dressed properly.
 - a. The normal accepted uniform is grey flannels, white shirt, club tie and white tops (sweaters, cardigans, jackets, waterproofs etc). No jeans of any description are to be worn.
 - b. Clubs may also choose to register colours with the League and will be allowed to play in polo shirts and/or sweaters cardigans fleeces etc in those colours.
 - c. Entire teams must be dressed the same (either grey & white or colours).
- c) Satisfy any age limits:
 - a. Be under 25 on the 1st of April in the year of the competition to play in the Junior Singles
 - b. Be 60 and over on the 1st of April in the year of the competition to play in the Senior Fours
- d) Not represent more than one club in any one season in the Edinburgh Cup or Knockout Competitions.
- e) Not play in more than one Knockout Competition.
- f) Not use mobile phones or other communication devices in the playing area. The playing area is decided by the green, its environs and any surrounding path and verge. Discretion should be used when a player has to have a phone because of any extenuating circumstances but the opposition skip/opponent should be advised of this prior to the commencement of the match.

7 Playing Rules

Except as provided in the rules set out in the following sections, the rules for play are those set down, for the time being, by the Laws of the Sport of Bowls (current version dated April 2007).

- a) For all rounds, up to and including the semi finals, of the Edinburgh Cup competition and for all 1st and 2nd Team matches, the rinks are to be drawn immediately prior to play in the manner prescribed by The Edinburgh Bowling League as shown below.
 - i) The home captain should prepare two sets of scorecards showing the details of the clubs involved, the game being played and the date. One set of cards should then be passed to the visiting captain.
 - ii) The home captain and the visiting captain should then add the names of their skips to their set of scorecards. The home scorecards should then be passed to the visiting captain.
 - iii) The visiting captain should then pick a home scorecard, a visiting scorecard and then pick a rink number. This rink number should be added to the pair of scorecards.
 - iv) Repeat step (iii) until all rinks are picked.
 - v) 3rd Team rinks may be allocated.
- b) The procedure to be used for the final of the Edinburgh Cup competition will be at the discretion of the Committee.
- c) Players are allowed 15 minutes to appear on the green, ready for play, otherwise the tie or points will be forfeit.
- d) Delaying the playing of bowls is not permitted. Play must be continuous.
- e) Sponsors Bowls Stickers, where supplied, **MUST BE USED**. Club stickers can be used at other times, although the HOME club to remove stickers if there is a clash. Members of the same rink should all have the same stickers or all should have no stickers.
- f) In the event of a club forfeiting a rink, their opponents will be awarded the two points plus the aggregate point.
- g) On all matters relative to play, the Committee's decision is final.

8 Cancellations

In event of a match being cancelled due to inclement weather or unforeseen circumstances, the following prevails:

For Singles and Junior Singles Knockout competitions, the match must be rescheduled and played to a finish BEFORE the next round.

For the Pairs, Triples, Fours and Senior Fours Knockout competitions, if a minimum of 11 ends have been completed, the score at that time stands. If a minimum of 11 ends have not been completed, the match must be rescheduled and played to a finish BEFORE the next round.

For the League and Edinburgh Cup competitions,

1. If a minimum of 11 ends have been completed by all rinks, then the final score will be calculated at the minimum number of ends completed by all rinks. (e.g. 2 rinks have completed 15 ends and 2 rinks have completed 13 ends, then the final score would be calculated at 13 ends or 3 rinks have completed 15 ends and 3 rinks have completed 13 ends, then the final score would be calculated at 13 ends).
2. If a minimum of 11 ends have not been completed by all rinks:
 - a) For the League competition, the match must be rescheduled and played to a finish BEFORE the next round of league matches. If the match affected is the last league match, the match must be played within 7 days.
 - b) For the Edinburgh Cup competition, the matches must be rescheduled and played to a finish BEFORE the next round.
 - c) For the Edinburgh Cup competition, in the event of only one Green being playable, the three rinks should proceed as normal. The other three rinks (on the unplayable green) must be rescheduled and played to a finish BEFORE the next round. All six rinks should play the same number of ends.

Clubs should arrange an alternative date that it is agreed by both parties and with the Host Club, where appropriate. In event of failure to agree, the standby date for rescheduling is the following Monday (Friday for Senior Fours Knockout competition).

If a match has to be restarted and players are unavailable, substitution is permitted as laid out in the Laws of the Sport of Bowls (current edition dated April 2007). Players, however, should not be transferred from one rink to another. The replacement player(s) can play in any position other than skip and the other members can rearrange their positions as necessary.

For the League and Edinburgh Cup competitions, if a Club have to play as a triple in a restarted match, the rink will lose 25% of their total shots for the remaining ends played.

For the Pairs, Triples, Fours and Senior Fours Knockout competitions, a player who has played in any other Knockout competition CANNOT come in as a replacement.

9 League Competition

Clubs must inform the Secretary of their intention to change their current league competition entries no later than 31st October each year. This will allow the Committee to decide on the structure of the league divisions and announce it at the Annual General Meeting. Once the structure has been decided, the new season's fixtures will be drawn up and issued to the clubs by 7th February each year.

- a) The 1st, 2nd and 3rd Teams will play in separate leagues with their own promotion and relegation. Normal promotion and relegation will be two up, two down. In the event that the league divisions require to be restructured, the Committee may need to promote and/or relegate a different number.
- b) Scheduled league matches will be played on Wednesday evenings between the first Wednesday in May and the last Wednesday in August.
- c) Players are committed to the 1st Team if they have played 10 games for that Team. This number will reduce pro rata with the number of sides in the division at the time.
- d) Players can be promoted to the 1st Team and returned to the 2nd/3rd Teams without penalty save (c) above. A player "replaced" in the 1st or 2nd Team may play in the 3rd Team without penalty.
- e) Match points will be awarded as follows:
 Each rink: two points for a win; one point for a draw; no points for a loss.
 Overall aggregate score: one point.
 This means that the 1st and 2nd Team are playing for a maximum of 9 points and the 3rd Team are playing for a maximum of 5 points.
- f) Matches to be of 17 ends, one trial end and toss for the jack (overall, home or away).
- g) For the 1st and 2nd Team competitions, matches must be played over four rinks with a minimum of three players before a rink can be forfeited. If a club plays with less than 16 players on more than two occasions in one season, the club may suffer a points reduction. The Committee will investigate the circumstances before confirming any reduction.

| 1 st & 2 nd Team Format when player/players short | | | | | |
|---|-----------------------|-------|---|---------|--|
| Players | Format on how to play | | | | Penalty |
| 15 | 3 | Rinks | 1 | Triple | 1/4 Triple Score |
| 14 | 2 | Rinks | 2 | Triples | 1/4 Triple Scores |
| 13 | 1 | Rink | 3 | Triples | 1/4 Triple Scores |
| 12 | 0 | Rinks | 4 | Triples | 1/4 Triple Scores |
| 11 | 2 | Rinks | 1 | Triple | 1/4 Triple Score and forfeit 3 points |
| 10 | 1 | Rink | 2 | Triples | 1/4 Triple Scores and forfeit 3 points |
| 9 | 0 | Rinks | 3 | Triples | 1/4 Triple Scores and forfeit 3 points |
| <9 | No Game | | | | Forfeit all 9 points |

| 3 rd Team Format when player/players short | | | | | |
|---|-----------------------|-------|---|---------|----------------------|
| Players | Format on how to play | | | | Penalty |
| 7 | 1 | Rink | 1 | Triple | 1/4 Triple Score |
| 6 | 0 | Rinks | 2 | Triples | 1/4 Triple Scores |
| 5 | 1 | Rink | 0 | Triple | Forfeit 3 points |
| 4 | 1 | Rink | 0 | Triple | Forfeit 3 points |
| <4 | No Game | | | | Forfeit all 5 points |

10 Knockout Competitions

Clubs must inform the Secretary of their intention to enter each of the knockout competitions no later than the Annual General Meeting in December of each year. Once the number of entries has been established, the Committee will arrange for the draws of these competitions to be made. The dates and neutral venues for each competition will then be decided.

- a) For all rounds up to and including the semi-finals the competitions are to be played as follows;

| | | | |
|------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| Singles; | 4 bowls, 21 shots | Pairs; | 4 bowls, 15 ends |
| Triples; | 3 bowls, 13 ends | Fours; | 2 bowls, 15 ends |
| Junior Singles; | 4 bowls, 21 shots | Senior Fours; | 2 bowls, 15 ends |

On finals day, the competitions are to be played as follows;

| | | | |
|------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| Singles; | 4 bowls, 21 shots | Pairs; | 4 bowls, 17 ends |
| Triples; | 3 bowls, 15 ends | Fours; | 2 bowls, 17 ends |
| Junior Singles; | 4 bowls, 21 shots | Senior Fours; | 2 bowls, 15 ends |

- b) Clubs will be allocated a number of matches to be held on the same date. Clubs will be expected to make rinks available on their greens for the playing of these matches and, where necessary, provide umpires and markers.
- c) If a club is unable to fulfil a match in any of these competitions, that club is responsible for advising their opponent, the host club and the Secretary of the situation.

11 Edinburgh Cup Competition

The draw for the Edinburgh Cup will take place at the Annual Sportsman's Dinner. In the event of that not taking place, the Committee will decide how and when the draw is to be made.

- a) Match points will be awarded as follows (A maximum of 13 points available):
Each rink: two points for a win; one point for a draw; no points for a loss.
Overall aggregate score: one point.
- b) Matches to be of 17 ends, one trial end and toss for the jack in each rink. In the event of a draw on points and shots then all six rinks should play an extra end(s) until a winner is known. Extra ends being "burnt" should be replayed.
- c) If a club is unable to fulfil a match in any of these competitions, that club is responsible for advising their opponent and the Secretary of the situation.

| Format when player/players short | | | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------|--|-------------------|
| Players | Format on how to play | | | Penalty |
| 23 | 5 Rinks | 1 Triple | | 1/4 Triple Score |
| 22 | 4 Rinks | 2 Triples | | 1/4 Triple Scores |
| 21 | 3 Rinks | 3 Triples | | 1/4 Triple Scores |
| 20 | 2 Rinks | 4 Triples | | 1/4 Triple Scores |
| 19 | 1 Rink | 5 Triples | | 1/4 Triple Scores |
| 18 | 0 Rinks | 6 Triples | | 1/4 Triple Scores |
| <18 | No Game | | | Forfeit Game |

12 Sending Results

For the League and Edinburgh Cup competitions, the League team sheet and score should be completed and signed immediately after the match and either;

- a) Sent FIRST CLASS post,
- b) Faxed or
- c) E-mailed to the Secretary.

The completed League team sheet and score should be in the hands of the Secretary no later than 48 hours after the match. Scorecards should be retained by the clubs in case of dispute.

For the Knockout competitions, the host club should ensure that the scorecards are signed immediately after the match and either;

- a) Sent FIRST CLASS post to the Secretary or
- b) The result e-mailed or telephoned to the Secretary.

The result should be in the hands of the Secretary no later than 48 hours after the match.

The League website (www.edinburghbowlingleague.co.uk) will be updated with all the results once they have been received by the Secretary.

Appendix 1 – Member Clubs

The member clubs of The Edinburgh Bowling League are:

| | | | |
|------------------------|---------------|------------------------|---------------|
| Ardmillan BC | 0131 337 8483 | Maitland BC | 0131 336 3624 |
| Blackhall BC | 0131 332 0335 | Mayfield BC | 0131 477 7114 |
| Braid BC | 0131 447 0612 | Merchiston BC | 0131 228 6447 |
| Brunstane BC | 0131 657 4417 | Niddrie BC | 0131 665 3762 |
| Coltbridge BC | 0131 337 1046 | Northern BC | 0131 556 5575 |
| Corstorphine BC | 0131 334 9454 | Parkside BC | 0131 667 7882 |
| Craigentenny BC | 0131 669 1076 | Pilrig BC | 0131 554 5873 |
| Craigmillar Park BC | 0131 662 0720 | Portobello BC | 0131 669 0316 |
| Dean BC | 0131 332 0015 | Postal BC | 0131 661 7677 |
| Dudley BC | 0131 554 7912 | Queensberry BC | 0131 552 6858 |
| Edinburgh West End BC | 0131 229 8308 | Seafield BC | 0131 554 2372 |
| Ferranti BC | 0131 343 2740 | Summerside BC | 0131 554 1395 |
| Goldenacre BC | 0131 552 4206 | Tanfield BC | 0131 332 6814 |
| Hillside BC | 0131 556 5727 | Tipperlinn BC | 0131 447 8648 |
| Jessfield BC | 0131 657 3583 | Tramways BC | 0131 554 1530 |
| Leith BC | 0131 554 7439 | Trinity BC | 0131 552 9067 |
| Liberton BC | 0131 664 5780 | Wardie BC | 0131 552 7885 |
| London Road Foundry BC | 0131 669 9001 | Whitehouse & Grange BC | 0131 447 9606 |
| Lutton Place BC | 0131 668 2707 | Willowbrae BC | 0131 661 3833 |

Appendix 2 – The Edinburgh Bowling League Committee

The Edinburgh Bowling League Committee for 2011 is:

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| President: | John Cossar (Mayfield Bowling Club) |
| Vice President: | Brian Higgins (Maitland Bowling Club) |
| Secretary: | Bill Ramsay (Mayfield Bowling Club) |
| Treasurer: | Alistair Wilkie (Dudley Bowling Club) |
| Immediate Past President: | Roddy Watson (Dean Bowling Club) |
| Committee: | John Newall (Hillside Bowling Club) Robert Donaldson (Parkside Bowling Club) Martin Watt (Summerside Bowling Club) Graeme Swan (Tanfield Bowling Club) |

The Committee has been allocated certain Clubs to assist the Secretary in the organizing and execution of the various competitions and rules relating to The Edinburgh Bowling League.

Current Allocation as at January 2011 is

| | |
|------------------|---|
| Brian Higgins | Blackhall, Craigentiny, Edinburgh West End, Liberton, Merchiston, Portobello, Tanfield and Whitehouse & Grange. |
| John Newall | Coltbridge, Corstorphine, Dudley, Jessfield, Maitland, Parkside, Seafield and Trinity. |
| Robert Donaldson | Hillside, Leith, Mayfield, Northern, Pilrig and Summerside. |
| Martin Watt | Braid, Craigmillar Park, Ferranti, London Road Foundry, Niddrie, Postal, Tipperlinn and Willowbrae. |
| Graeme Swan | Ardmillan, Brunstane, Dean, Goldenacre, Lutton Place, Queensberry, Tramways and Wardie. |

Appendix 3 - Authorization and Change History

| | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Created by: John Newall & Bill Ramsay | Date: November 2010 |
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Reason for issue:

| Issue | Summary | Date |
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| 1 | Original Issue | November 2010 |
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